

Serial No.: 10/603,408
Docket No.: 60655.1000

Listing of the Claims

1. (previously presented) A computer-implemented method for facilitating the translation of files comprising:

establishing, via a host computer, definitions comprising at least one of sorting criteria, filter criteria, date range, file format, accounting codes and formatting criteria; creating, via said host computer, an interface file including said definitions; reading, via said host computer, data from a first source; reading, via said host computer, said definitions contained in said interface file; translating, via said host computer, using only a single translation of said data from said first source according to said definitions contained in said interface file; and, saving, onto said host computer, said interface file.

2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said establishing step comprises:

receiving information regarding a type of said interface file to be created; receiving data regarding a desired file format; and receiving formatting data regarding a format of said data being translated.

3. (previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said receiving formatting data step comprises entering said formatting data for each field of said data being translated.

4. (original) The method of claim 3 wherein said formatting data comprises:

a field name;
a description;
a length of the field;
an indicator of fixed-width/variable width status;
a mask to force data into a particular style;
justification information; position information; and
element information.

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5. (previously presented) The method of claim 4, wherein said element information comprises:

information regarding a type of said data in said field, wherein said information comprises at least one of a calculated expression; a static table entry; alphanumeric information; and a query.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 2 further comprising:

selecting a template file as a starting point for creating the interface file;
entering data regarding a sorting preference; and
entering data regarding a filtering preference.

7. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of establishing definitions comprises establishing definitions based upon a response to a question presented to a user via a user interface.

8. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said translating step further comprises:

creating a second source of a predetermined type;
writing said data to said second source; and,
saving said second source.

9. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of establishing definitions further comprises establishing definitions having a property relating to a data field.

10. (previously presented) The method of claim 9, wherein said property includes at least one of field name, description, status, length flag, length, minimum length, maximum length, format mask, justification, pad character, quote, delimiter flag, start position, end position, counter increment flag, element, query field, static table entry, counter, fixed test, expression, character function and common expression.

11. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of creating, via said host computer, an interface file includes creating only one interface file.